

## GENERAL NOTES

Conducted by O. A. Stevens

**Lapland Longspurs in Kentucky.**—I have observed hundreds of Lapland Longspurs this winter (1936-1937) in Hopkins and McCracken Counties, Kentucky. One was collected.—RAYMOND J. FLEETWOOD, *Paducah, Ky.*

**The Starling in Clay County, South Dakota.**—Reports of the Starling in southeastern South Dakota are as yet rare; therefore, the writer would like to add a record for Clay County. On March 28, 1937, I saw a pair of Starlings on the western edge of the town of Vermillion, and it is probable that the birds will breed in that vicinity.—WM. YOUNG WORTH, *Sioux City, Iowa.*

**Yellow Rail in Ohio.**—On April 18, 1937, the writer flushed a Yellow Rail (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*) in a wet, grassy field near Cleveland, Ohio. The chicken-like bill and yellow underparts were noted as the bird descended into the grass a few yards beyond the spot where it was first flushed. On being approached the bird took flight again, displaying the characteristic white wing patches. It flew about thirty yards and dropped into a blackberry patch. So far as I know, this is the second record for this rare species in the Cleveland region.—RALPH O'REILLY, JR., *Cleveland Heights, Ohio.*

**Gull Records for Lake Erie.**—More than the usual number of gulls remained along the shores of Lake Erie during the past winter (1936-37). Here in Cleveland a few Bonaparte's Gulls were noted among the hundreds of Herring Gulls and Ring-billed Gulls. At Ashtabula harbor a Glaucous Gull was seen on December 27 by a party including the writer. The bird appeared to be a second-year bird, as it had not yet acquired the spotless plumage and yellow bill of the adult. At the same place on January 30 an adult Iceland Gull was noted as it flew by at a distance of only about thirty yards. At Presque Isle, Erie, Pennsylvania, on February 20 and 21, a Great Black-backed Gull was seen in the bay. At the same place we saw a flock of twenty-one Common Redpolls. Both species were observed in good light at short range.—M. B. SKAGGS, *Cleveland, Ohio.*

**Pine Siskins in Western Maryland.**—On July 1, 1937, a number of Pine Siskins (*Spinus pinus pinus*), some of them young birds of the season, were noted in Swallow Falls State Forest, along the Youghiogheny River in Garrett County, Maryland. The birds were feeding and calling in hemlock trees, and it seems reasonable to suppose that they may have bred locally. Individuals of this species were again noted on July 3 by Mr. M. Graham Netting, of the Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh. The forest here is of nearly pure virgin Canada hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*), and many Canada, Black-throated Blue, Blackburnian, Magnolia, and Black-throated Green Warblers, Juncos, Red-breasted Nuthatches, and Mountain Vireos nest locally. Siskins are rarely observed in summer on the Allegheny tableland, a region embracing parts of Pennsylvania, Maryland, and West Virginia.—MAURICE BROOKS, *West Virginia University, Morgantown, W. Va.*

**Unusual Sparrow Records from Arizona.**—A single Swamp Sparrow (*Melospiza georgiana*) was seen by the writer on December 19, 1936, at Tuba City, on the western side of the Navajo Indian Reservation in Arizona. It was closely observed as it perched in a small willow; its characteristic note helped to identify